

Sex-Ratio in Rajasthan

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SEX RATIO IN RAJASTHAN

As the provisional figures of the population estimates of the 1961 Census in India began to appear in daily newspapers, the interest of the experts and the public was aroused to learn about the increase in population of the country which threatens to engulf the efforts and achievements made during the two five year plan periods. The Home Minister announced that the population of India stood at 438 million in March 1961. The population increased by 21.49% in the past decade, indicating thereby a substantial rise in population of all states. Besides the rate of increase of population, the sex ratio of the Indian population also aroused much interest. The masculine majority which is a characteristic feature of most of the oriental countries was still present more or less at the same level in all the states in India in 1961. This feature also drew the attention of the members of the Lok Sabha and the Union Minister

of Health had observed that the declining female population did not yield to clinical or public health scrutiny. Besides the increased facilities for maternal and child health, the statutory grant of equality for the sexes, rise in the national income per capita and the standard of living, of the masses and general economic welfare of the country, specially after the Independence, the male majority has not shown any signs of decline as is clear from the census population estimates in India. In this background an effort has been made to put together the data on sex ratio in Rajasthan, to place the factual position and stimulate interest for further investigation of the problem.

A male majority was indicated in the population data in all the Indian census. The sex ratio in India in 1961 remained more or less, as it was in 1951. The census data of 1951, reflected a male majority of 106 per 100 females in India and 109 in Rajasthan.

The sex ratio and the increase in population in

Rajasthan for the last 60 years are given in table no.1.

Table no.1

Sex ratio and population Indices
Rajasthan 1901-61

Year	Sex ratio*	Popula- tion. 'Year	Sex ratio*	Popula- tion.
1901	100	100	1941	145
1911	100	107	1951	162
1921	102	100	1961	205
1931	100	114		

*Males per 100 females. Base year 1901
Sex ratio 110=100 and population 98,42,000.

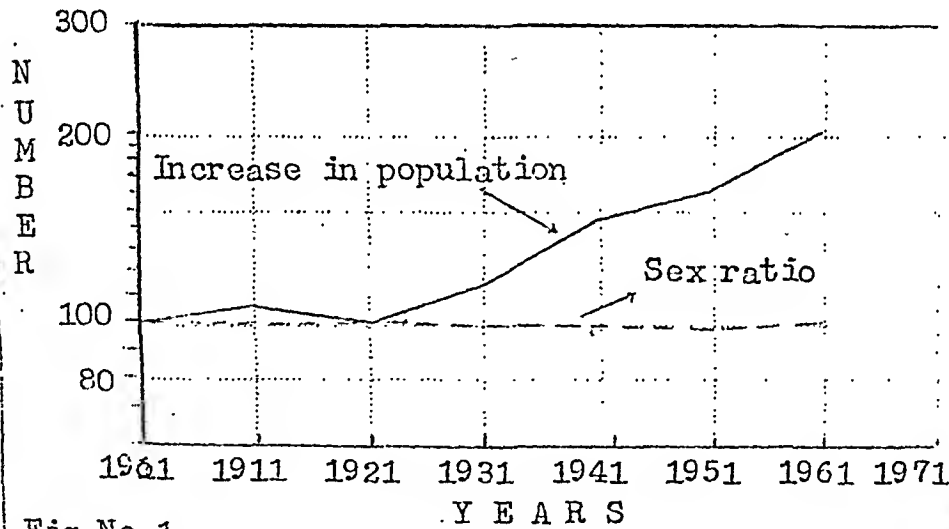


Fig.No.1.

The data revealed, firstly, a regular male majority in all the censuses and secondly, it had no correlation with the increase in population. This fact is also illustrated by the figure no.1.

The urban-rural differential for Rajasthan and India are given in table no.2.

Table No.2

Sex ratio by area-India and Rajasthan
1901-1951

Year	(Males per 100 females)			
	Urban area		Rural area	
	'Rajasthan'	India	'Rajasthan'	India
1901	105	112	111	103
1911	107	117	111	104
1921	112	121	112	104
1931	111	122	110	105
1941	111	123	110	105
1951	108	116	109	104

This data was taken from the Census Reports of India and Rajasthan. The data reflected a male majority in urban as well as rural areas in India and Rajasthan. The male majority

in urban areas was less than that of rural areas in Rajasthan but in case of India the position was reverse. There was no evidence to show migration of females from rural areas to urban areas in Rajasthan. Similarly, there was no immigration of population in Rajasthan except due to partition of India and Pakistan.

A glance at the table no.2 will reveal that the masculinity of urban population in India was increasing up to 1941 and in case of Rajasthan it increased upto 1921 only and thereafter it reflected a slight decline. This was also true for rural areas in Rajasthan. In case of India, the rural sex ratio increased alongwith the urban ratio. In Rajasthan the urban-rural differential in the sex ratio was highest in 1901 and was reduced to zero in 1921. The sex-ratio was higher in rural areas in comparison to urban areas up till 1921, after which the position changed. The urban sex ratio became higher than the rural one but this position was again reversed in 1951. The sex ratios in both areas in

Rajasthan were also not very different. Thus the sex ratio did not reflect any signs of modern problems of masculinity as are seen in urban areas in the western countries. The census data for 1961 for Rajasthan and India are still not available.

The urban masculinity is mostly related to economic factors. If the cities grow by migration which is mainly connected with the development of trade, commerce, industry and transport amidst the prevailing prejudice against employment of women outside home, then it can be expected that the faster the cities grow, the more masculine would become their sex ratios. Thus the sex ratio would vary directly with the size of the city. Table no.3 bears out this deduction. The sex ratio, without any exception in both the censuses, had reflected a male majority in all classes of cities. It also reflected an increase with the size of the towns. The VI class of 'below 5000' population had shown a higher sex ratio than the V class of 5 to 10 thousand, because the towns in

VI class were selected on the basis of urban characteristics

Table No.3

Sex-ratio by size of towns in Rajasthan
1941-51

		(Males per 100 females)		
		Rajasthan		India
<u>Size of town</u>		<u>1941</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1931</u>
I	1,00,000 to 5,00,000	118	112	128
II	50,000 to 1,00,000	115	111	120
III	20,000 to 50,000	109	106	121
IV	10,000 to 20,000	109	105	113
V	5,000 to 10,000	108	106	111
VI	Under 5,000	109	108	118

although they had less than 5000 persons; hence they reflected true urban characteristics thus a basis for the higher sex-ratio. The all India sex ratio for all classes of cities in 1931 was higher than that of Rajasthan in 1941 and 1951 censuses. This might be due to the lesser adoption of modernism in cities of Rajasthan in comparison to other states in India. The sex ratio in all classes of cities was reduced in Rajasthan in 1951 in comparison to 1941. The possible reason

may be the change of towns from lower classes to upper ones. In the class of towns of 1 to 5 lacs of population, the reasons for reduction in sex ratio were not fully known. There were four cities in this class, out of which only Ajmer had a little industrial area. Perhaps the migration of males to these cities might have been accompanied by females.

The geographical differentials in the masculinity in the state were also studied. The data is given in table no.4.

Table No.4 Sex ratio by districts, in 1941-61

(Males per 100 females)							
<u>District</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1941</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1941</u>
Ajmer	110	108	111	Jaisalmer	124	122	124
Alwar	112	112	112	Jalore	109	109	108
Banswara	103	102	100	Jhalawar	108	105	108
Barmer	115	115	115	Jhunjhunu	106	105	113
Bharatpur	119	120	119	Jodhpur	112	113	112
Bhilwara	110	107	106	Kotah	111	107	109
Bikaner	110	104	115	Nagaur	106	107	103
Bundi	111	110	109	Pali	106	106	106
Churu	106	107	110	S. Madhopur	115	114	113
Chittorgarh	107	105	106	Sikar	104	103	109
Dungarpur	101	100	103	Sirohi	106	104	105
Ganganagar	119	120	123	Tonk	110	108	111
Jaipur	112	109	109	Udaipur	106	104	106

The state is divided into 26 districts. In 1961 all districts reflected male majority. Similarly, all districts (except Dungarpur in 1951 and Banswara in 1941) had male majority during the last 20 years. The reasons for the low sex ratio in these two districts might be found in the composition of the population. These two districts had a large population of the schedule tribes like Bhils etc. who had a very low sex ratio in comparison to other ethnic groups. During the period of 1941 to 1961 three districts did not register any change in the male majority and eight districts reflected a change on the negative side. There were six districts in which the sex ratio was the same in 1941 and 1961 although they had registered a change in 1951 census. Bikaner district reflected the highest variation during this period, which was on a negative side in 1941-51 and on a positive side in 1951-1961. Jaisalmer district had the highest male majority in all the censuses. Jaisalmer district has the smallest population and the largest area amongst all districts. Almost all

area is desert. Life is a constant struggle for survival. It is economically the most backward area.

The urbanisation was not accompanied by male majority in all the districts in Rajasthan. This would be clear from the table no.5. Out of the 26 districts, 25 had a

Table No.5

Sex ratio by areas by districts in 1951

(Males per 100 females)					
<u>District</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>Urban</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>Urban</u>
Ajmer	106	111	Jaisalmer	123	117
Alwar	111	115	Jalore	110	100
Banswara	102	100	Jhalawar	105	104
Barmer	115	106	Jhunjhunu	105	103
Bharatpur	120	117	Jodhpur	114	112
Bhilwara	107	109	Kotah	107	111
Bikaner	103	104	Nagaur	108	110
Bundi	109	109	Pali	105	109
Churu	111	99	S.Madhupur	114	109
Chittorgarh	104	110	Sikar	105	98
Dungarpur	99	100	Sirohi	104	105
Ganganagar	118	128	Tonk	110	97
Jaipur	109	109	Udaipur	104	108

male majority in rural areas in comparison to 19 in urban areas. There were three districts which reflected female majority in urban areas in comparison to only one in rural

areas. The masculinity was more stable in rural areas than urban areas. Similar data for 1961 was not available.

Sex ratio for some of the important tribes of Rajasthan was computed for the year 1941. These tribes are considered backward in comparison to the other people of the state. Out of the five most important tribes of Rajasthan, the Merats had a sex ratio of 115 per 100 females which was the highest, the lowest was 95 for Bhils and in between lay Rawats (107), Girrasias (109) and Meenas (111). Their data could not be compared for 1951 as it was not available. But a summary position of Schedule Tribes and Scheduled Castes of Rajasthan and India is given in the table no.6.

Table No.6.

Sex ratio by Schedule Castes & Tribes in 1951
(Males per 100 females)

Schedule Castes and Tribes	Rajasthan			India		
	All area	Urban	Rural	All area	Urban	Rural
Schedule Castes	104	106	104	103	111	103
Schedule Tribes	99	102	108	101

The schedule castes reflected a little more masculinity in rural areas as well as for all areas in Rajasthan in comparison to India. The all India sex ratio in urban areas was more than that of Rajasthan. The schedule tribes did not reflect a male majority in Rajasthan, but they did in case of all India ratios. The sex ratios for schedule tribes was less than that of schedule castes in India.

Table No.7. Sex ratio by religion 1931-51.

Religion	(Males per 100 females)			
	Rajasthan			India
	<u>1931</u>	<u>1941</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1951</u>
Hindus	111	111	109	105
Muslims	113	112	107	107
Sikhs	146	132	117	118
Jains	94	98	105	108
Christians	116	107	106	101
Others	102	108	80	100

Sex ratio is given in the above table for the leading religious groups in Rajasthan for the period 1931 to 1951 and for India for 1951. All religious groups except the Jains had a male majority. The Jains indicated female

majority in 1931 and 1941 in Rajasthan. The second feature was that all the religions indicated a declining male majority in Rajasthan. The largest decline was in the Sikhs. The Jains were the only exception where the sex ratio increased and the males gained a majority. Their all India sex ratio was a little higher than that of Rajasthan. The Hindus and the Christians reflected a higher sex ratio in Rajasthan in comparison to India. The Muslims, the Sikhs and the Jains had a lower sex ratio in Rajasthan as compared to India. The Sikhs reflected the highest male majority during this period in Rajasthan as well as in India.

Table No.8 Sex ratio by age groups in 1941-51
(Males per 100 females)

Age groups	1951		1941	
	Rajasthan	India	Rajasthan	India
0 - 4	103	101	100	99
5 - 14	111	105	112	108
15 - 24	105	105	111	105
25 - 34	101	106	111	104
35 - 44	116	112	112	110
45 - 54	121	112	114	112
55 - 64	116	105	111	105
65 +	128	98	110	99

All the age groups reflected a male majority in Rajasthan in 1951. The highest sex ratio was observed in the age groups of 65+ and the second highest was in 45-54 group. All the age groups except 0-4 and 45-54 had nearly the same sex ratio in Rajasthan in 1941. The range in the sex ratio was larger in 1951 than that of 1941 in Rajasthan. There were more fluctuations from year to year in 1951 than in 1941. The 45-54 age group had the highest sex ratio in both the censuses in India. A female majority was observed in the age group of 65+ in India in 1951. The range and fluctuations from year to year were less in comparison to Rajasthan. The sex ratio was 99 for India in comparison to 100 of Rajasthan in the age group of 0-4 years which increased to 101 in 1951. The age group of 65+ reflected a female majority in 1941 and 1951 in the all India data which was significantly different from Rajasthan.

All the classifications by means of livelihood categories reflected a male majority in the groups of

principal as well as principal with subsediary means. The highest male majority was noticed in the class of public

Table No.9

Sex ratio by means of Livelihood in
Rajasthan-in 1941
(Males per 100 females)

Means of Livelihood	Principal means of livelihood with subsediary	Principal with some subsediary means of livelihood.
Production of Raw materials	582	210
Preparation and supply of Material substances	630	523
Public Administration and Liberal Arts	1139	800
Miscellaneous	312	564

administration and liberal arts in both the groups of principal as well as principal with subsediary means. The excessive male majority reflected in the data in the above table might also be due to the definations and classifications adopted in the 1941 census. Women, in general, are engaged in the domestic work and assist the males in their

ork in rural areas, and technically they were not considered earners' in the census.

Table No.10.

Sex ratio by occupational distribution in Rajasthan and India in 1951.

<u>Occupation</u>	(Males per 100 females)	
	<u>Rajasthan</u>	<u>India</u>
1. Cultivators of land, wholly or mainly <u>owned</u> and their dependants.	109	104
2. Cultivators of land, wholly or mainly <u>unowned</u> and their dependants.	111	106
3. Cultivating labourers and their dependants.	100	99
4. Non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependants	92	84
5. Production other than cultivation	110	114
6. Commerce	106	111
7. Transport	118	124
8. Other services and miscellaneous sources	105	111

The highest sex ratio was seen in the 'transport' group. The all India figure in this group was still higher than that of Rajasthan. The male majority was evident in all the occupational groups except the non-cultivating owners of land and agricultural rent receivers and their dependants. It was also observed in the cultivating labourers and their dependants in India. Rajasthan had a higher sex ratio in the first four groups which were connected with agriculture and in the remaining four groups, it had lower sex ratios in comparison to that of India.

Table No.11

Sex ratio in literates in 1941-61

	<u>Rajasthan</u>			<u>India</u>	
	<u>1941</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1961</u> *
Males per 100 females	955	567	443	334	265

*Provisional.

The sex ratio in the literate population was very high. A male majority was reflected in all the censuses in Rajasthan as well as India. The masculine sex ratio declined

from 955 to 443 during the last 20 years. The masculinity in Rajasthan in 1961 was higher than that of India in 1951. The male majority is a sign of lack of literacy in the females. As the figures indicate Rajasthan has proportionately less literacy in females in 1961 than that of India in 1951. Thus Rajasthan of 1961 is behind the India of 1951. The sex ratio for India improved to 265 in 1961 which was much improved than that of Rajasthan.

Table No.12.

Sex ratio by age groups in literates
in Rajasthan 1941-51
(Males per 100 females)

1941		1951	
<u>Age group</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Age group</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
5-10	621	5-9	301
10-15	695	10-14	411
15-20	725	15-24	421
20-30	857	25-34	535
30-50	1277	35-54	774
50 and over	1824	55 and over	1015

The male majority increased with the advanced age groups in both the censuses. The sex ratio was less in each age group in the 1951 census in comparison to what it was in

1941. There was an extremely high sex ratio in the advanced age groups. The masculinity increased with the advance in age groups reflecting less and less education in females as one looks back from census to census. With the growing consciousness of the need of female education, more and more females are taking advantage of the growing educational facilities for females. This is reflected in the reduced masculinity in the early age groups, specially in the age group of 5-9 in 1951. The data for 1961 by age groups is not available which will reflect still much reduced masculinity.

Table No.13 Sex-ratio by area and civil condition
in Rajasthan and India 1951

<u>State and area</u>	(Males per 100 females)		
	<u>Unmarried</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Widowed</u>
Rajasthan			
All area	137	100	56
Urban	142	100	47
Rural	136	100	58
India			
All area	134	100	41
Urban	142	115	40
Rural	132	97	42

In the unmarried group Rajasthan had a higher male majority than India. A higher male majority in urban areas in comparison to rural areas was observed in Rajasthan. This urban-rural difference was less in Rajasthan in comparison to that of India. In the married group the position of Rajasthan was a balanced one in contrast to that of India. A female majority was reflected in rural areas in India. In the widowed group, the majority of widows in contrast to widowers was quite conspicuous in all areas in Rajasthan as well as in India. The position was a little better comparatively in rural areas in Rajasthan.

Table No.14. Sex ratio and civil condition in Rajasthan, 1901-1951

	(Males per 100 females)						
<u>Civil condition</u>	<u>Rajasthan</u>						<u>India</u>
	<u>1901</u>	<u>1911</u>	<u>1921</u>	<u>1931</u>	<u>1941</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1951</u>
Unmarried	158	156	145	141	133	137	134
Married	87	87	86	88	89	101	100
Widowed	45	37	50	46	46	56	41

The male majority in the unmarried group in Rajasthan was highest in 1901 which declined during the 50 years. The position was reversed in the married group where the males were in minority and increased to majority in 1951. In the widowed group the females reflected a majority but the sex ratio showed a tendency to increase.

Table No.15

Sex ratio by age group and civil condition-1951

Civil condition	(Males per 100 females)			
	15-44 years		45 & above	
	India	Rajasthan	India	Rajasthan
Unmarried	313	437	332	745
Married	89	92	177	173
Widowed & divorced	44	55	60	58

The sex ratio for Rajasthan was higher than that of India in both the age groups by 'civil condition' except in the married class with age group 45 and over. This reflected the general social backwardness in Rajasthan in

comparison to India as a whole. A very high masculinity was observed in the unmarried class of age 15-44 both in Rajasthan and India, as females very seldom remained unmarried in this age group. This is corroborated by the sex ratio in the married class. The sex ratio in both age groups for the married class was opposite to each other in Rajasthan as well as India. The reasons for this sharp change could be found in the fact that the married females died in the reproductive age period and their husbands remarried young females, thus creating female majority in the married age group of 15-44 and male majority in the age group of 45 and over.

The data in the table on page 23 was reproduced from the table No.VI page 78 of 1941 Census report of Rajputana. One peculiar feature of the data was that the sex ratio increased in one age group from census to census and decreased in the next adjoining age group, from census to census. The Jain community had female majority in all age

Table No.16.

Sex ratio by main communities and age groups in Rajasthan, 1911-41

		(Females per 100 males)					
		Age groups					
<u>Communities</u>		<u>15-20</u>	<u>20-25</u>	<u>25-30</u>	<u>30-35</u>	<u>35-40</u>	<u>40-45</u>
Hindus	- 1941	88	91	90	86	90	88
	1931	88	92	91	90	91	88
	1921	94	98	86	90	84	96
	1911	76	99	88	92	83	98
Muslims	- 1941	88	93	93	88	92	86
	1931	90	92	91	87	86	83
	1921	80	98	86	92	79	93
	1911	80	101	90	96	82	98
Jains	- 1941	104	111	108	99	106	99
	1931	108	113	113	111	114	111
	1921	102	122	107	117	103	122
	1911	98	117	107	110	97	124
Tribes	- 1941	92	99	95	86	90	97

groups from 1921 census and onwards. The highest point touched was 124 in the age group of 40-45 in 1911. In the Muslims there was more equality of the sexes in the age group of 20-25 in comparison to other age groups in all the censuses. The female majority was observed in the age group

of 20-25 in 1911, otherwise, male majority was observed in all age groups in all censuses. The highest and lowest points touched were 99 in the age group of 20-25 and 74 in 15-20 respectively. In the Tribes the sex ratio went up and down from one age group to the other in 1941. The data for the tribes in other censuses was not available.

Table No.17

Sex ratio by civil condition and community
in Rajasthan 1941

<u>Community</u>	(Females per 100 males)		
	<u>Unmarried</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Widowed</u>
All community	68	102	195
Hindus	67	102	197
Muslims	70	102	159
Jains	69	113	258
Christians	90	92	160
Tribes	76	103	198

The data is reproduced in the table no.17 from the 1941 census report of Rajputana. The largest number of unmarried females per 100 males was in the Christians in comparison to the lowest number in the Hindus. In the married

group, the highest and lowest sex ratios were reflected by the Jains and the Christians, respectively. The Jains had the highest female majority in the groups of married as well as widowed in comparison to all the other communities. The smallest ratio of widowed females was in the Muslims and the Christians. The sex ratio for the Hindus, the Tribes and for all communities was very near to each other. There was a male majority in the unmarried group in all communities in comparison to a female majority in married and widowed groups in all communities except in the married Christians.

Table No.18

Sex ratio by age group, civil condition
and community in Rajasthan 1941
(Females per 100 males)

Communities	15-40 years			40 + years		
	Unma- rried	Marr ied.	Wido wed.	Unma- rried	Marr ied	Wido wed
All communities	19	113	171	9	59	205
Hindus	17	111	176	8	59	207
Muslims	24	119	114	15	56	176
Jains	23	134	320	6	64	244
Christians	80	115	142	117	62	169
Tribes	28	114	160	201	62	214

The data is reproduced in table no.18 from the census report of Rajputana. The data was taken for two major age groups 15-40 and 40 & over, so as to throw some light on civil condition of females during the maternity period and completed maternity period. The very low ratio of females in the unmarried group in all communities except the Christians reflected the importance attached to the female marriages in Rajasthan. There was a female majority in the married age group of 15-40 years as compared to that of the age group of 40 and over where there was a male majority. A female majority in the widows class in both the age groups was reflected. The reasons might be found in the low expectation of life, widower males remarrying or the widowed females having a longer longevity. The specific contribution of these factors needs further investigation. The position of females in the Christians was also not much different than others in the widowed class, although there was a marked difference in the unmarried class. The highest majority was

observed in the widowed class in both the age groups in the Jains.

The data of registered births and deaths in Rajasthan reflected a male majority in all the areas as well as all the years. The data was of limited use as all the areas were not under registration system and even in the registration areas; the registration was incomplete. The data of registered births in India in 1956-1958 period also reflected a masculinity. The sex ratio of registered deaths also reflected a male majority in urban as well as rural areas in Rajasthan. But as the data of registered births and deaths in Rajasthan is incomplete to a large extent the evidence is not conclusive.

Data of live births and still births was collected from leading State Maternity Hospitals and Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, widely dispersed in urban areas of Rajasthan. 12 institutions reported in 1951. This number increased from year to year. It became 25 in the year 1959.

No reports were received from the institutions in rural areas. The data reflected male majority in live as well as

Table No.19

Sex ratio in institutional births in
Rajasthan 1951-59

(Males per 100 females-Urban area only)					
<u>Year</u>	<u>Live births</u>	<u>Still births</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Live births</u>	<u>Still births</u>
1951	108	129	1956	103	133
1952	111	109	1957	107	111
1953	113	124	1958	103	120
1954	105	121	1959	106	119
1955	104	123			

still births. There were more than 5,000 live and 400 still births in the year 1951, which increased to more than 14,000 in the year 1959, respectively. There was no evidence to show bias in recording of sex of the child but the bias of certain categories of patients attending hospital was there although, the hospitalisation is free for all.

The data of registered live births in state

institutions in Rajasthan was broken up to observe the regional differential, if any, which is given in the table

Table No.20

Sex ratio in births by Divisions 1951-59

(Males per 100 females - Live births, Urban area)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Ajmer</u>	<u>Bikaner</u>	<u>Jodhpur</u>	<u>Udaipur</u>	<u>Kotah</u>
1951	115	94	104	98	120
1952	105	118	121	113	106
1953	116	111	108	105	115
1954	105	105	96	111	162
1955	104	105	114	83	100
1956	100	121	105	107	99
1957	107	111	115	104	78
1958	100	114	115	93	107
1959	104	111	112	109	86

No.20. Ajmer showed male majority in all the years, so also was the case with Bikaner and Jodhpur divisions except in the year 1951 and 1954 respectively. The male majority was not reflected in some years in Udaipur and Kotah divisions. The numerical data which was broken up by regional divisions still grew thin to accord any conclusive results. Therefore

it requires further investigation.

Table No.21

Sex ratio by patients in Rajasthan 1950-59

(Males per 100 females)					
<u>Year</u>	<u>In-</u> <u>patients</u>	<u>Out-</u> <u>patients</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>In-</u> <u>patients</u>	<u>Out-</u> <u>patients</u>
1950	126	196	1955	100	197
1951	123	181	1956	109	198
1952	117	189	1957	106	196
1953	110	177	1958	97	195
1954	103	183	1959	98	198

The data of patients treated in all state institutions in Rajasthan are given in table no.21. A male majority was reflected in outpatients in all years. The highest was 198 in the years 1956 and 1959. The lowest was 177 in 1953. A male majority was reflected in the inpatients from the year 1950 to 1957. In the years 1958 and 1959 the sex ratio was low, and a female majority was noticed. The increased female inpatients reflected the popularity of the institutions and the willingness of females to come to them for hospitalisation.

The sex ratio in favour of females may rise as more and more females begin to go to the primary health centres which are being increased rapidly.

The data on sex ratio in Rajasthan was examined from various angles in comparison to India. The data indicated a male majority in almost all the spheres. The low sex ratio for females in some spheres like literacy, employment, hospitalisation was due to the social taboos and backwardness of females which is disappearing with advancing times. The masculinity in the total population in Rajasthan as well as India is not reducing alongwith the social, economic and industrial development in general. The sex ratio is more or less constant. It has no correlation with the increasing population in Rajasthan. A slight decline in case of towns (table 3) was observed in 1951. The sex ratio was lower in urban areas than rural areas in Rajasthan in 1951. This may be due to various factors like, house-building activities to provide residential accommodation for families in urban areas,

lack of slums as are found in industrial areas, semi-rural and small and medium scale industrial economy, etc.

The expectation of life in our country is lower in comparison to the western countries. The masculinity of the population and the effects of higher mortality among males in comparison to females needs to be examined again in the light of growth of the 1961 population in Rajasthan. The lower proportion of females in the population helps in keeping the fertility low provided other conditions are fulfilled, to this extent the masculinity of population may be helpful in checking the growth of population which is the sinequanon of the day. The masculinity of population in Rajasthan may have another advantage in the form of lesser competition for clerical and other jobs from the fair sex which is in minority. It may perhaps also be helpful in the dowry which is already a social problem in many sections of the Indian communities.

Some studies have pointed out a high correlation between the sex ratio and economic status. The European countries have developed an advanced scientific economy and industrial life and they have a female majority. But how far it is due to the standard of living, and developed industry, commerce and economic life or due to mortality of males in wars or other factors is not known. Whether the climate and temperature, food and dietary habits, heredity and social habits and customs, education and professional gainful employments, etc. have to do any thing with the female majority are yet to be investigated and established.